electronic exchanges and STD facilities; and

(b) by when these places are likely to be connected with STD facility and also electronic exchanges?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) The details are given in the statement attached. *(See* below)

(b) S.T.D. facility to all these places is likely to be provided during 92-93.

Electronic exchange at Golaghat, Nalbari, Bongaigaon, Marpherita and Nazira are planned to be provided during 92-93 at Dhubri & Kokrajhar during 93-94 and Sibsagar & Rangia during 94-95.

Statement

1. *ELECTRONIC EXCHANGES*

The following district and sub-divisional headqarters in Assam have not been provided with Electronic Exchanges:—

District Headqarters:

Sibsagar, Golaghat, Nalbari, Dhubari, Kokrajhar, Bongaigaon.

Sub-divisional Headquarters:

Sibsagar, Golaghat, Dhubri, Kokrajhar, Bongaigaon, Markherita, Nazira, Nalbari, Rangia.

2. *S.T.D. facility*: All the District Headquarters in Assam have been provided with STD facility.

The Sub-divisional Headquarters in Assam not linked with the S.T.D. facility are:—

Sonari, Kamalabari (Majule), Bokajan, Bhakuakhana, B. Charali, Udalguri, Kaliabor (Kwarital), Madanrouta Nagar (Pathalia) Bilasipara, Hsatsingimari, Gosaigaon, Hamren, Maibong, Lakhipur.

Waiting list of telephone connections in Bombay

2783. SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the total number of applications for new telephone connections in various categories that are pending in Bombay, category-wise;

(b) in which exchange area the waiting period is the longest; and

(c) what steps the MTNL-Bombay propose to take to reduce the waiting period and provide the telephones to the wait listed applicants at the earliest?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Category-wise number of pending applications in Bombay as on 30.6.92 are as under:—

OYT	31215
N-OYT Spl.	2668
N-OYT Genl.	205775
TOTAL :	239658

(b) The waiting period is longest in the following areas where the general category waiting list has been cleared upto 31.12.84 only.

1. City 2. Mandvi 3. Gamdevi 4. Coregaon 5. Gokuldham 6. Malad 7. Borivali 8. Bhayader 9. Mulund 10. Thane 11. Wagle Estate.

(c) As per 8th Plan proposals, expansion programmes are being drawn with an objective to reduce the waiting period within (on average) two years by the end of the 8th Plan. During 92-93, about 70,000 new connections are likely to be provided in M.T.N.L. Bombay.